

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W

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R 070947Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6879

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2087

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MY, IN, RP, TW, CH

SA J: RAZAK-SUHARTO MEETING: PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

REF: A) JAKARTA 5485

B) SINGAPORE 1972

C) FBIS BANGKOK 031501Z MAY 74

D) KUALA LUMPUR 2035

E) KUALA LUMPUR 1787

1. SUMMARY: INITIAL GLEANINGS FROM PRIME MINISTER RAZAK MEETING
WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO IN PENANG MAY 3-4 INCLUDE APPARENT GOI
"ACCEPTANCE" OF GOM INTENTION TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH
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PRC, GOM SUPPORT OF GOI ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT IN RETURN FOR GOI

ASSURANCES THAT MALAYSIAN TRANSIT OF INDONESIAN-CLAIMED AREAS WOULD NOT BE IMPEDED, AND REITERATION OF GOM DENIAL OF INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINE MUSLIM REVOLT. FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY REPORT IS BASED ON PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF CORRESPONDENT WHO ATTENDED GOM PRESS BACKGROUNDEERS. END SUMMARY.

2. PATTERN OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS: RAZAK MEETING WITH SUHARTO IS SEEN BY GOM AS DEVELOPING PATTERN OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH ASIAN LEADERS. "HIGH GOM OFFICIAL" (UNNAMED) WHO BRIEFED OUR SOURCE FOLLOWING RAZAK-SUHARTO TALKS SAID THAT SINGAPORE PM LEE KUAN YEW ALSO INVITED BY RAZAK TO ATTEND BUT LEE DECLINED, APPARENTLY IN BELIEF THAT HE SHOULD NOT INTRUDE ON TALKS BETWEEN "MALAY BROTHERS". ACCORDING PRESS SOURCE, MALAYSIANS WERE NOT UNHAPPY WITH LEE'S REFUSAL AND INTEND TO INVITE HIM FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN NEXT FEW WEEKS (SEE ALSO REF B). INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE WITH BURMESE PRESIDENT NE WIN MAY 24 WHEN HE WILL STOP IN KUALA LUMPUR EN ROUTE SINGAPORE. IN THIS REGARD, SOURCE PREDICTED INCREASING NUMBER OF INFORMAL MEETINGS BETWEEN RAZAK AND SEA HEADS OF STATE IN FURTHERANCE OF REGIONAL COOPERATION. (COMMENT: RAZAK PREFERS LOW-KEY, INFORMAL EXCHANGES WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHETHER THIS WILL BE EXTENDED TO NEW THAI LEADERSHIP AND PRESIDENT MARCOS.)

3. CHINA RELATIONS: GOM SOURCE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC WOULD BE MADE JUST PRIOR NE WIN VISIT AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY RAZAK VISIT TO CHINA END OF MAY-FIRST WEEK OF JUNE. CONTRARY TO EMBASSY UNDERSTANDING (PARA 2, REF D), GOM SOURCE QUOTED AS SAYING GOM HAS AGREED TO CLOSE ROC CONGEN, CHINA NEWS AGENCY OFFICE, AND TERMINATE CAL/MAS TAIPEI SERVICE BUT PRIVATE TRADE WILL CONTINUE UNIMPEDED. AIR SERVICE DECISION MAY, HE SAID, STILL BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS MAS VERY RELUCTANT LOSE THIS LUCRATIVE RAU. RE CITIZENSHIP, GOM SOURCE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT APPROXIMATELY 180,000 STATELESS CHINESE IN MALAYSIA WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR DOCUMENTATION, AND PRESUMABLY PROTECTION, BY PRC DIPLOMATIC MISSION, ALTHOUGH IT NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN WHETHER "DOCUMENTATION" WILL CONSIST OF PASSPORT OR SOME TYPE OF CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY. IN THIS

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CONNECTION, GOM IS ALSO RE-EXAMINING ITS PROCESSING OF CITIZENSHIP APPLICATIONS, POSSIBLY WITH VIEW TO DIMINISHING NUMBER OF CHINESE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR MALAYSIAN CITIZENSHIP AND WHO ALSO HAVE CLAIM TO PRC DOCUMENTATION. PRC MISSION, IT WAS POINTED OUT, WOULD ALSO HAVE SOME DISCRETION AS TO WHOM IT WOULD ACCEPT TO DOCUMENT AS PRC CITIZENS. (COMMENT: ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING CITIZENSHIP AND DOCUMENTATION OF STATELESS CHINESE GIVE PRC CONSIDERABLE CAUSE TO INVOLVE

ITSELF IN LOCAL CHINESE AFFAIRS, A CONCESSION WHICH GOM
MAY REGRET.)

4. ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT: AS REPORTED IN REFS A AND C, GOM
TOOK MAJOR STEP OF SUPPORTING GOI ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT IN
RETURN FOR "ASSURANCES" THAT TRANSIT BETWEEN PENINSULAR
MALAYSIA AND SARAWAK WOULD BE UNIMPEDED. (COMMENT: IT WAS
APPARENTLY NOT BROUGHT OUT IN PRESS CONFERENCE OR BACKGROUNDEES
WHETHER SUHARTO RE-DEFINED ARCHIPELAGO CONCEPT, POSSIBLY
INCLUDING DESIGNATION OF SEA LANES, OR GAVE RAZAK ANY SPECIFIC
ASSURANCES REGARDING TRANSIT OF NATUNAS OR ANAMBAS ISLANDS.
WE WOULD WELCOME ANY CLARIFICATION IN THIS RESPECT FROM
EMBASSY JAKARTA.)

5. SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES: PRESS COVERING RAZAK-SUHARTO
TALKS WAS NOT GIVEN ANY INDICATION THAT GOM VIEWS ON SOUTHERN
PHILIPPINE SITUATION WENT BEYOND FLAT MALAYSIAN DENIAL OF
INTERFERENCE IN PHIL AFFAIRS IN KEEPING WITH RAZAK'S RECENT
STATEMENTS TO PARLIAMENT (REF E). POINT WAS MADE BY GOM
SOURCE, HOWEVER, THAT TIMING OF RAZAK-SUHARTO TALKS FOLLOWING
MME. MARCOS' "CULTURAL PILGRIMAGE" TO INDONESIA WAS FORU-
TIOUS AND DID NOT RELATE TO A SPECIFIC INITIATIVE ON THE
SOUTHERN PHIL PROBLEM.
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